



NY1/YNN-Marist Poll

Majority Supports Legalization of Same-Sex Marriage...

63% Want Law to Remain in Place

*** Complete Tables for Poll Appended ***

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This NY1/YNN-Marist Poll Reports:

Same-sex marriage has been legal in New York State for just a couple of weeks, but do New York State residents support the law? According to this NY1/YNN-Marist Poll, a majority of adults in New York favor the law, and more than six in ten do not want the legislation to be overturned.

Key findings include:

- 55% of New York State adults support the **legalization of same-sex marriage**. 36% oppose it, and 9% are unsure.
- Similar proportions of **registered voters** share these views. 55% of voters statewide favor same-sex marriage in New York State while 37% are against it. Eight percent are unsure.
 - Looking at **party**, about two-thirds of Democratic voters -- 66% -- support the law. And while a majority of Republican voters -- 52% -- oppose the law, 39% support it. Nearly six in ten non-enrolled voters -- 58% -- applaud the law.
- There are **age** differences. Many New Yorkers under the age of 45 -- 62% -- back the legislation while just half of those 45 and older -- 50% -- say the same.
- When it comes to **the suit filed to overturn the law**, 63% of adults statewide *don't* want the law to be overturned. However, 32% do, and 5% are unsure.
- The same proportions of **registered voters** -- 63%, 32%, and 5%, respectively -- share these views.
 - 72% of **Democratic voters** and 66% of **non-enrolled voters** statewide want the law to remain in effect. **Republican voters** divide. 48% of Republicans think it should be overturned while 47% believe it should stay in place.

- Nearly seven in ten **suburban residents** -- 69% -- and about two-thirds of **those upstate** -- 66% -- don't want the law overturned. 57% of **New York City adults** agree.
- Looking at **age**, 70% of those younger than 45 want the same-sex marriage law in effect while 59% of those 45 and older say the same.

Political Impact: Plurality More Likely to Vote for State Senator Who Supported Law

44% of registered voters in New York report they are more likely to vote for a state senator who voted to pass the same-sex marriage law. Three in ten -- 30% -- are less likely to cast their ballot for such a legislator while nearly one in five -- 19% -- says it makes no difference to their vote. Seven percent are unsure.

While a majority of Democratic voters -- 55% -- and a plurality of non-enrolled voters -- 45% -- think they are more likely to vote for a state senator who supported the same-sex marriage law, a plurality of Republican voters -- 43%-- say such a vote makes them less likely to support that state senator.

There is little difference regionally. 46% of voters in New York City's suburbs, 44% of those in the city, and 41% of upstate voters report they are more likely to vote for a lawmaker who backed the law.

However, age differences exist. A majority of voters younger than 45 years old -- 52% -- report support for the law positively impacts their vote for a state senator while 40% of older voters agree.

Most Don't Expect to Attend Same-Sex Wedding But Would Attend If Asked

Although 79% of New York State residents do not expect to be a guest at the same-sex marriage of a family member or friend in the next year, 70% would attend such a ceremony. Even 34% of adults who oppose the law legalizing same-sex marriage say they would go to the wedding of a gay or lesbian couple.

Key findings include:

- 79% of New York State adults do not **expect to attend a same-sex marriage** in the coming year. 15% do, and 6% are unsure.
- Seven in ten adults -- 70% -- would attend the same-sex marriage of a friend or family member. 71% of registered voters and 67% of Republicans would do the same.

How the Survey was Conducted

Nature of the Sample: New York State Poll of 600 Adults

This survey of 600 New York State adults was conducted on July 28th through July 31st, 2011. Adults 18 years of age and older residing in New York State were interviewed by telephone. Telephone numbers were selected based upon a list of telephone exchanges from throughout the state. The exchanges were selected to ensure that each county was represented in proportion to its population. To increase coverage, this land-line sample was supplemented by respondents reached through random dialing of cell phone numbers. The two samples were then combined. Results are statistically significant within ± 4.0 percentage points. There are 517 registered voters. The sample of registered voters was adjusted for turnout in statewide elections. The results for this subset are statistically significant within ± 4.5 percentage points. The error margin increases for cross-tabulations.

Nature of the Sample: Adults

Nature of the Sample - NYS Adults		
		NYS Adults
		Col %
NYS Adults		100%
Registered Voters		86%
Region	New York City	43%
	Suburbs	21%
	Upstate	36%
Income	Less than \$50,000	46%
	\$50,000 or more	54%
Race	White	58%
	African American	13%
	Latino	14%
	Other	14%
Race	White	58%
	Non White	42%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	21%
	Gen X (31-46)	24%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	34%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	20%
Age	Under 45	41%
	45 or older	59%
Gender	Men	48%
	Women	52%
Interview Type	Landline	79%
	Cell Phone	21%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Adults: Interviews conducted July 28th through July 31st, 2011, N=600 MOE +/- 4%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Nature of the Sample: Registered Voters

Nature of the Sample - NYS Registered Voters		
		NYS Registered Voters
		Col %
NYS Registered Voters		100%
Party ID	Democrat	50%
	Republican	27%
	Non-enrolled	20%
	Other	2%
Support Tea Party	Yes	26%
Political Ideology	Liberal	30%
	Moderate	36%
	Conservative	34%
Region	New York City	30%
	Suburbs	24%
	Upstate	46%
Income	Less than \$50,000	43%
	\$50,000 or more	57%
Race	White	65%
	African American	12%
	Latino	11%
	Other	12%
Race	White	65%
	Non White	35%
Generation	Millennials (18-30)	16%
	Gen X (31-46)	24%
	Baby Boomers (47-65)	37%
	Silent-Greatest (Over 65)	23%
Age	Under 45	36%
	45 or older	64%
Gender	Men	48%
	Women	52%
Interview Type	Landline	79%
	Cell Phone	21%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted July 28th through July 31st, 2011, N=517 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

The Legalization of Same-Sex Marriage in New York State

Asked of NYS Adults:

Question Wording: As of July 24th, same-sex marriage became legal in New York State. Do you support or oppose the law which allows gay or lesbian couples to legally marry?

		NYS Adults		
		As of July 24th, same-sex marriage became legal in New York State. Do you support or oppose the law which allows gay or lesbian couples to legally marry?		
		Support	Oppose	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Adults		55%	36%	9%
Region	New York City	51%	40%	9%
	Suburbs	54%	32%	14%
	Upstate	60%	34%	5%
Income	Less than \$50,000	52%	40%	8%
	\$50,000 or more	59%	33%	8%
Education	Not college graduate	52%	40%	9%
	College graduate	62%	30%	7%
Age	Under 45	62%	30%	7%
	45 or older	50%	40%	10%
Race	White	59%	34%	7%
	Non White	50%	39%	12%
Gender	Men	56%	33%	11%
	Women	55%	39%	6%
Interview Type	Landline	52%	39%	9%
	Cell Phone	67%	25%	8%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Adults: Interviews conducted July 28th through July 31st, 2011, N=600 MOE +/- 4%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

The Legalization of Same-Sex Marriage in New York State

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		As of July 24th, same-sex marriage became legal in New York State. Do you support or oppose the law which allows gay or lesbian couples to legally marry?		
		Support	Oppose	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		55%	37%	8%
Party Registration	Democrat	66%	28%	6%
	Republican	39%	52%	9%
	Non-enrolled	58%	38%	3%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted July 28th through July 31st, 2011, N=517 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

The Reversal of the Law Legalizing Same-Sex Marriage in New York State

Asked of NYS Adults:

Question Wording: Opponents of New York's same-sex marriage law have filed suit to overturn the law. Which comes closer to your opinion:

		NYS Adults		
		Opponents of New York's same-sex marriage law have filed suit to overturn the law. Which comes closer to your opinion:		
		The law should be overturned to make same sex marriage illegal in New York	The law should remain as it is to keep same sex marriage legal in New York	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Adults		32%	63%	5%
Same-sex Marriage Law	Support	2%	98%	1%
	Oppose	83%	15%	2%
Region	New York City	37%	57%	6%
	Suburbs	24%	69%	7%
	Upstate	30%	66%	4%
Income	Less than \$50,000	36%	59%	4%
	\$50,000 or more	28%	67%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	36%	59%	5%
	College graduate	26%	69%	5%
Age	Under 45	26%	70%	3%
	45 or older	34%	59%	7%
Race	White	28%	67%	5%
	Non White	35%	59%	6%
Gender	Men	26%	66%	8%
	Women	37%	61%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	33%	61%	6%
	Cell Phone	26%	70%	4%

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The Reversal of the Law Legalizing Same-Sex Marriage in New York State

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		Opponents of New York's same-sex marriage law have filed suit to overturn the law. Which comes closer to your opinion:		
		The law should be overturned to make same sex marriage illegal in New York	The law should remain as it is to keep same sex marriage legal in New York	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		32%	63%	5%
Party Registration	Democrat	24%	72%	3%
	Republican	48%	47%	5%
	Non-enrolled	33%	66%	1%
Same-sex Marriage Law	Support	2%	97%	1%
	Oppose	83%	16%	2%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted July 28th through July 31st, 2011, N=517 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

More or Less Likely to Vote for a State Senator Who Supported Same-Sex Marriage Law

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

Question Wording: Are you more or less likely to vote for a state senator who voted to pass the same-sex marriage law in New York?

		NYS Registered Voters			
		Are you more or less likely to vote for a state senator who voted to pass the same-sex marriage law in New York?			
		More likely	Less likely	Makes no difference	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		44%	30%	19%	7%
Party Registration	Democrat	55%	21%	19%	5%
	Republican	24%	43%	22%	11%
	Non-enrolled	45%	35%	18%	3%
Same-sex Marriage Law	Support	73%	4%	19%	4%
	Oppose	5%	75%	13%	7%
Region	New York City	44%	31%	17%	7%
	Suburbs	46%	29%	17%	8%
	Upstate	41%	30%	21%	7%
Income	Less than \$50,000	38%	34%	21%	7%
	\$50,000 or more	48%	28%	16%	7%
Education	Not college graduate	42%	33%	18%	7%
	College graduate	48%	25%	20%	7%
Age	Under 45	52%	27%	17%	5%
	45 or older	40%	32%	20%	9%
Race	White	48%	27%	20%	5%
	Non White	38%	33%	17%	12%
Gender	Men	43%	29%	21%	8%
	Women	44%	32%	17%	7%
Interview Type	Landline	43%	31%	17%	9%
	Cell Phone	47%	26%	24%	3%

NY1/YNN-Marist Poll NYS Registered Voters: Interviews conducted July 28th through July 31st, 2011, N=517 MOE +/- 4.5%. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Expect to Attend a Same-Sex Marriage in the Next 12 Months

Asked of NYS Adults:

Question Wording: Do you expect to attend a same-sex marriage of a friend or family member in the coming year, or not?

		NYS Adults		
		Do you expect to attend a same-sex marriage of a friend or family member in the coming year, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Adults		15%	79%	6%
Same-sex Marriage Law	Support	22%	71%	6%
	Oppose	6%	93%	1%
Region	New York City	14%	79%	7%
	Suburbs	9%	84%	7%
	Upstate	19%	77%	4%
Income	Less than \$50,000	15%	81%	5%
	\$50,000 or more	17%	77%	5%
Education	Not college graduate	14%	80%	6%
	College graduate	17%	78%	5%
Age	Under 45	18%	76%	6%
	45 or older	13%	81%	6%
Race	White	17%	78%	6%
	Non White	12%	81%	7%
Gender	Men	8%	85%	7%
	Women	22%	74%	5%
Interview Type	Landline	15%	79%	6%
	Cell Phone	16%	79%	5%

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Expect to Attend a Same-Sex Marriage in the Next 12 Months

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		Do you expect to attend a same-sex marriage of a friend or family member in the coming year, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		15%	79%	6%
Party Registration	Democrat	15%	79%	6%
	Republican	11%	88%	<1%
	Non-enrolled	22%	70%	8%
Same-sex Marriage Law	Support	22%	72%	6%
	Oppose	7%	92%	1%

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Would Attend a Same-Sex Marriage

Asked of NYS Adults:

Question Wording: Would you attend a same-sex marriage of a friend or family member, or not?

		NYS Adults		
		Would you attend a same-sex marriage of a friend or family member, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Adults		70%	26%	4%
Same-sex Marriage Law	Support	96%	3%	1%
	Oppose	34%	62%	4%
Region	New York City	65%	32%	3%
	Suburbs	78%	15%	7%
	Upstate	72%	24%	4%
Income	Less than \$50,000	61%	36%	3%
	\$50,000 or more	79%	16%	4%
Education	Not college graduate	64%	33%	3%
	College graduate	80%	15%	5%
Age	Under 45	77%	22%	1%
	45 or older	67%	27%	6%
Race	White	78%	18%	3%
	Non White	60%	35%	6%
Gender	Men	67%	27%	6%
	Women	73%	24%	3%
Interview Type	Landline	70%	25%	4%
	Cell Phone	69%	27%	3%

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Would Attend a Same-Sex Marriage

Asked of NYS Registered Voters:

		NYS Registered Voters		
		Would you attend a same-sex marriage of a friend or family member, or not?		
		Yes	No	Unsure
		Row %	Row %	Row %
NYS Registered Voters		71%	24%	5%
Party Registration	Democrat	77%	20%	3%
	Republican	67%	28%	5%
	Non-enrolled	73%	23%	4%
Same-sex Marriage Law	Support	96%	2%	2%
	Oppose	36%	59%	5%

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